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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
INFORMATION BRANCH
30 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco 2, California

In cooperation with the
Federal-State Market News Service

WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending Oct. 29, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 26--- Grapes continue as the Best Buy in fruits, although they are slightly higher priced than last week.

Apples, strawberries, Persian and Honeydew melons, cranberries, small oranges, and Comice and D'Anjou pears are the week's Fair Buys.

Prices on lemons are down some, but they are still high.

Tomatoes and peppers -- especially tomatoes -- are the outstanding buys in vegetables. Other Good Buys include cabbage, cauliflower, celery, lettuce, onions, and potatoes.

Classed as Fair Buys this week are artichokes (lower priced), snap beans, carrots, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, sweetpotatoes, and squash.

Movement of fresh meats this past week has been only fair in the San Francisco wholesale market. A light lamb slaughter cleared more readily at unchanged prices, but the demand for beef was not sufficient to keep stocks cleared. Quality on beef ranged from Commercial to Good, with prices dropping $1.00 to $2.00 on carcasses and $1.00 to $3.00 on cuts, especially loins. Ample supplies of Good and Choice veal held unchanged in price. There was a fair demand for fresh pork. Pork loins were unevenly $2.00 lower, but all other fresh cuts held unchanged in price, as did the cured pork cuts.

Wholesale butter prices have continued their downward trend. Grade A(92 Score) is quoted 2 to 3 cents lower this week at 64 to 65 cents per pound. Grade B(90 Score) is 1½ cents lower at 61½ cents per pound. Supplies have been rather liberal and more than ample for the demand, which has been slowed down by existing strikes.

All grades of eggs have continued in good demand and have gone up in price. Grade "A" Large eggs are up 1-cent at 68 to 68½ cents per dozen, as are Grade "A" Mediums at 65 to 65½ cents. Grade "A" Smalls are 2 cents higher at 51 to 51½ cents per dozen, and Grade "B" Large eggs are 2 cents higher at 53 to 53½ cents per dozen. Supplies of top-grade large eggs have not been adequate for all needs, but supplies of other grades and sizes have been about ample.

In the poultry market, rather liberal supplies of young chickens have held unchanged in price from last week. Hens are in rather light supply and have advanced in price. Small Leghorn hens are up 4 cents per pound on both live and dressed weights; large Leghorn hens are 3 cents higher; and colored hens are 1-cent per pound higher. Young tom and hen turkeys are about 1-cent higher this week. Demand has been fairly good for all classes.

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